STATION NOTES

The climatological readings for Kingston are made from several stations. Temperatures and humidity are measured in a Stevenson Screen situated in Winchester Park and supervised by the Society of Jesuits. The exposure is good and the readings are considered representative of the area. Rainfall is measured at the Public Works Office but there are several other gauges within a two mile radius with which to a mpare. This is necessary with the capricious nature of Jamaica rain. Cloud weather and wind are recorded at Palisadoes Airport situated on the seaward side of Kingston Bay. This is a full time synoptic and climatological meteorological station, first class, maintained by Air Ministry staff, and is the forecast centre for the western Caribbean. Here the exposure is excellent but the cloud amount tends to be less than over the City. Showers are also less frequent. The day sea breeze sets in carlier at the Airport and apparently is stronger, while the night land breeze which cools the urban area does not appreciably affect the Airport till dawn. Wind is recorded by Dines Pressure Tube Recording Anemometer.

Both Morant Point and Negril Point Light house are full synoptic reporting stations with a good complement of instruments including Cup Anemometers. Exposures are open and very good, the s tes at the extreme east and west extremities of the Island being excellent for their main purpose of weather reporting for immediate international

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National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

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KINGSTON, JAMAICA.—Mean Meteorological Results for the Year 1946, Longitude 76*48' West Latitude 17°58' North

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Temperatures measured at Winchester Park. * And any other days.

NEGRIL POINT LIGHTHOUSE, JAMAICA.—Mean Meteorological Results for the Year 1946. Longitude 78' 22' West. Latitude 18' 15' North.

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THE WEATHER OF 1946

The outstanding feature of the weather this year was the lack of rain. For the first six months of the year the mean rainfall over the whole island fell 15-20% below normal but the main effect was in the Central parts where by June the drought was very keenly felt, the May rains being very feeble. The extreme western parishes had slightly more than normal rainfall and the extreme east about normal but later in the year even these began to suffer, particularly the East. A comparison of the actual rainfall given for the three stations Kingston, Negril Point and Morant Point with their longterm averages of 30.56, 54.00, and 67.00 inches, respectively will illustrate this, the whole island showing a deficit approaching 20%. Corresponding deviations show in the temperature Kingston averaging above the normal of 78.7° F, with cloudiness below normal, and raindays—42 against an average of 79. No other outstanding deviations were noted.

Extremes—In Kingston, the March temperatures gave a wide range of 26.1° F between maximum and minimum readings, July being the most equable month. The range over the whole year was 33.0° F. Neither Negril nor Morant Points approach this, the year's range being 29.5° F at Negril and 27.8° F. at Morant though Negril shows a monthly range in March of 26.8° F.

Northers—Northers were experienced during the period March 21st-22nd when a wave of cold air from the United States of America succeeded in penetrating into the Caribbean sea to south of Jamaica. A stronger burst of cold air occurred in December, moderate northers being reported December 5th-7th.

Tropical Storms—While six tropical disturbances formed during the season only two passed within range, both in October. A storm forming about 450 miles to the west of Jamaica moved NNE and developing to hurricans strength, crossed the western tip of Cuba and moved on to Florida where it degenerated. Strong south winds were experienced in the Cayman Islands. A weak circulation formed at the end of the month north of Haiti and moved north-westwards near Turks Island and, still weak passed on to Florida.